

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of the claims:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus, comprising:

a head portion for driving a staple into a sheet bundle;

an anvil portion opposingly arranged to the head portion for receiving and bending the staple driven from the head portion;

feeding means for feeding the sheet bundle in a sheet bundle feed path between the head portion and the anvil portion;

a fixed guide member extending laterally and immovably positioned between the head portion and the anvil portion for guiding the sheet bundle; and

an auxiliary guide member disposed on an upstream side of the fixed guide member in a sheet bundle feed direction of the sheet bundle fed by the feeding means, said auxiliary guide member being formed separately from the fixed guide member and projecting into the sheet bundle feed path over ~~from~~ the fixed guide member to lead the sheet bundle to the fixed guide member without touching a leading edge of the sheet bundle fed by the feeding means on an upstream edge of the fixed guide member in the sheet bundle feed direction.

2. (currently amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising frames for movably supporting the anvil portion and the head portion, said fixed guide member being immovably attached to the frames.

3. (original) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said fixed guide member has a cutout portion on an upstream edge.

4. (currently amended) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said auxiliary guide member projects upwardly from an upstream edge of the fixed guide member.

5. (new) A sheet post-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said head portion includes covers fixed on two end thereof, said auxiliary guide member being fixed to the covers.